

# 113 WARE AVE.

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## WARE AVENUE

Those individuals who owned small business and who often either owned or rented smaller dwellings in Towson played their part in making this community the important service center that it was during the 19th century. It is fair to say, however, that in its earliest days some areas of Towson were shaped in great part by a handful of large families who owned large amounts of land that they subdivided. Prior to the establishment of the Court House these included such families as the Roslevs, Paynes, Chews and Towsons, as well as the Schmucks and the Shealeys. After the establishment of Towson as the county seat there was a great deal of development, buying and speculation. A group of men from West Chester, Pennsylvania which included John T. Ensor, Amos and John Rutter and David McConhey, are known to have purchased large tracts on both the east and west sides of town in the 1850's, and it was under their influence that so many of our streets and lots took shape.

There was another family who owned a large amount of land on the north edge of town prior to the 1850's and whose holdings eventually played a role in shaping that particular neighborhood. Nathan H. Ware owned land on the north side of West Joppa Road at least as early as 1843. The Zur Horst map of ten years later shows that "N. H. Ware" also owned an improved parcel on the south side of town, just North of the Bowen House on York Road. The Wares owned the Joppa Road property throughout most of the second half of the 19th century, although by the 1890's this land had been subdivided into lots improved with the frame dwellings that are still there today. It is the history of this family that determined the course of this neighborhood and which lead to its eventual development. That it was developed in the last quarter of the 19th century is evident from the style of the buildings on "Ware" Avenue, and it is through these buildings that that street derives its very specific and individual character. It is one of the few streets left in Towson that exhibits a relatively unaltered genuine Victorian streetscape.

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

BA - 1401

MAGI-0314015604

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Smith House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

113 Ware Ave.

CITY, TOWN

Towson

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE.

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. New Courts Building

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

BA-1401

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE Spring, 1978

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**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

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This turn of the century, two story shingle home located on 113 Ware Ave. is built in an L-shape plan, with a stone foundation and a gable end roof. The north (or main) facade is three bays deep and features three 6/6 sash windows on the second story and one 6/6 sash windows on the first story. The shutter locks are still present. The first story also features a centrally located entrance with transom. A full open porch supported by plain rectangular columns covers the first story. Tongue-and-groove paneling is visible on the ceiling and flooring of the porch.

The west facade is one bay wide and is vented by a double 6/6 sash window on the first story and a smaller 6/6 sash attic window.

The east facade consists of a one bay deep addition along with the one bay deep main block. The main block is vented by one 6/6 sash window on the first story, one 6/6 sash window on the second story and one smaller 6/6 attic window. A cellar entrance is centrally located in the end wall of the main block. The addition which has a rock faced formstone foundation is vented by one 6/6 sash window on the first story and one 6/6 sash window on the second story. Both have functional louvered shutters. Also visible from the east facade is the structure's overhanging eaves.

The south facade consists of the two bay wide main block plus a one bay wide addition. The main block exhibits regular fenestration which includes one 6/6 sash window on the first story and one 6/6 sash window on the second story. The addition exhibits irregular fenestration which includes two different sized 6/6 windows on the second story and one large 6/6 window on the first story. The addition has a gently pitched gable end roof. Also visible is a small shed roofed, partially enclosed pantry which provides for a back entrance.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

A simple two story frame house which, by virtue of its relatively unaltered appearance and positioning, plays an integral role in the cohesive late 19th century streetscape of Ware Ave. These buildings are still used as residences and as a collection are rare among the many blocks of Towson that have either been demolished by high rise construction or commercial conversion.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See Attachment

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

WAYNE E. NIELD, II  
HISTORIC TOWSON, INC.

ORGANIZATION

DATE

STREET &amp; NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

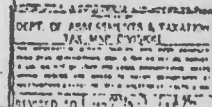
The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

TITLE SEARCH

Title search for # 113 Ware Avenue is not available.

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BALTIMORE COUNTY. SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET TO A





BA-1401  
#113 WARE AVE.  
N. W. CORNER

W. NIELD  
SUM. 78



BA-1401

#113 Ware Ave.

S.

W. Nield  
Sum-78